
Quarterly Benefit Statistics

U.S. Railroad Retirement Board
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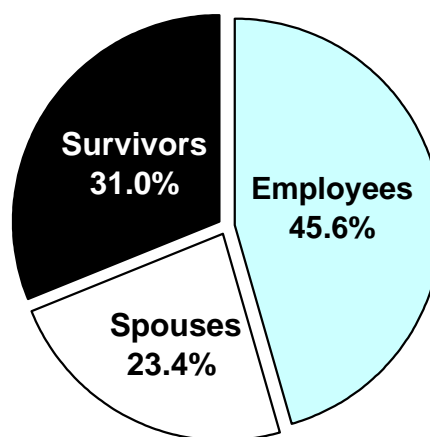
Railroad Retirement and Unemployment Insurance Programs

Selected Current Statistics for **October - December 1999**

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Railroad Retirement and Survivor Beneficiaries on the Rolls, by Type, December 1999

(691,000 beneficiaries)



NOTE.--Approximately 5,000 employees also received spouse annuities and some 3,400 employees also received survivor annuities.

Table 1: Retirement and Survivor Programs, Benefit Statistics
October - December 1999

Period	Total ¹		Employee annuities				Spouse annuities	Divorced spouse annuities
	Monthly benefits	Monthly beneficiaries	Age	Disability		Supple- mental		
				Age under 65	Age 65 and over			
Number in current-payment status at end of period								
December 1999	841,737	690,638	235,187	40,401	39,466	142,651	162,623	3,634
November 1999	843,274	691,884	235,686	40,368	39,453	142,922	162,958	3,620
October 1999	844,791	693,102	236,200	40,285	39,491	143,202	163,414	3,630
Average amount in current-payment status at end of period								
December 1999	.....	.....	\$1,329.80	\$1,652.76	\$1,211.89	\$42.55	\$529.48	\$325.04
November 1999	.....	.....	1,304.58	1,617.42	1,186.74	42.56	520.00	317.85
October 1999	.....	.....	1,302.41	1,615.48	1,184.71	42.58	519.45	318.07
Number awarded during period								
December 1999	2,583	2,176	537	283	.....	407	557	33
November 1999	3,172	2,690	656	344	.....	482	687	31
October 1999	3,203	2,689	695	407	.....	514	744	31
10/99 - 12/99	8,958	7,555	1,888	1,034	.....	1,403	1,988	95
10/98 - 12/98	8,494	7,379	1,657	1,230	.....	1,115	1,897	109
Average amount awarded during period ²								
December 1999	.....	.....	\$1,762.62	\$1,957.60	.....	\$40.38	\$626.01	\$328.78
November 1999	.....	.....	1,739.79	1,810.91	.....	40.66	600.05	278.43
October 1999	.....	.....	1,788.55	1,781.93	.....	40.80	592.34	303.26
Benefit payments during period (thousands)								
December 1999	\$682,791	.....	\$307,705	\$67,406	\$46,761	\$6,104	\$85,163	\$1,211
November 1999	688,937	.....	308,631	70,665	46,670	6,261	85,771	1,239
October 1999	686,090	.....	308,107	69,172	46,609	6,102	85,797	1,239
10/99 - 12/99	2,057,817	.....	924,443	207,243	140,040	18,467	256,731	3,689
10/98 - 12/98	2,058,012	.....	930,855	195,533	137,959	19,086	261,132	3,767

¹Includes dependent parents' and survivor (option) annuities. Except for benefit payment data, excludes insurance lump-sum and residual payment figures. Benefit payments also include hospital insurance benefits for services in Canada. ²Regular employee and spouse annuity averages are preliminary estimates.

NOTE.--MONTHLY BENEFITS in CURRENT-PAYMENT STATUS at the end of month include all benefits awarded to date and payable for the month.

BENEFITS AWARDED consist of those certified for the first time on either a partial or final basis.

BENEFIT PAYMENTS for a month, shown in both the benefit and financial statistics, consist of recurrent monthly checks dated the first of the month, plus retroactive and lump-sum payments made during the month less returned checks (excluding those not yet distributed by Account), refunds of benefits paid previously, etc. Data are on a cash basis (unaudited) and are partly estimated.

**Table 1: Retirement and Survivor Programs, Benefit Statistics -
October - December 1999 -- Continued**

Survivor benefits								
Period	Annuities					Children	Insurance lump sums	Residual payments
	Aged widows and widowers	Disabled widows and widowers	Widowed mothers and fathers	Remarried widows and widowers	Divorced widows and widowers			
Number in current-payment status at end of period								
December 1999	181,315	5,866	1,335	5,974	9,291	13,922	.....	.....
November 1999	181,733	5,874	1,345	5,980	9,290	13,973	.....	.....
October 1999	182,102	5,883	1,341	5,965	9,270	13,933	.....	.....
Average amount in current-payment status at end of period								
December 1999	\$812.32	\$703.89	\$1,019.22	\$563.33	\$573.30	\$675.83	.....	.....
November 1999	794.72	689.13	998.49	550.70	560.46	660.91	.....	.....
October 1999	793.47	688.75	995.22	549.63	559.65	659.93	.....	.....
Number awarded during period								
December 1999	642	18	9	19	37	41	172	5
November 1999	758	14	18	42	66	74	437	8
October 1999	626	24	11	30	62	59	432	9
10/99 - 12/99	2,026	56	38	91	165	174	1,041	22
10/98 - 12/98	2,025	50	37	79	158	137	1,063	17
Average amount awarded during period ²								
December 1999	\$1,008.65	\$923.75	\$1,113.39	\$718.58	\$719.40	\$887.95	\$884	\$3,240
November 1999	962.89	946.36	863.81	717.29	557.35	817.46	865	4,326
October 1999	940.90	878.24	1,063.19	661.19	554.75	828.82	886	3,308
Benefit payments during period (thousands)								
December 1999	\$144,584	\$4,128	\$1,388	\$3,337	\$5,285	\$9,510	\$156	\$16
November 1999	144,961	4,178	1,426	3,499	5,396	9,780	383	35
October 1999	144,590	4,187	1,393	3,360	5,316	9,749	391	31
10/99 - 12/99	434,135	12,493	4,207	10,196	15,997	29,039	930	82
10/98 - 12/98	437,519	12,505	4,271	9,899	15,327	28,945	997	90

NOTE .--(Continued from previous page.)

FOR WIDOWS and WIDOWERS aged 60 and over and WIDOWED MOTHERS and FATHERS, the number of benefits being paid and benefit payments include benefits temporarily being continued at spouse annuity rates, pending award of survivor annuities.

INSURANCE LUMP SUMS and RESIDUAL PAYMENTS are each counted only once with respect to an employee's death even though divided among 2 or more persons. Award data for insurance lump sums exclude deferred benefits, i.e., those payable a year after the employee's death.

Data on benefit payments are for CALENDAR MONTHS; all other data are for ACCOUNTING MONTHS ending on approximately the 20th of each month.

**Table 2: Retirement and Survivor Programs, Financial Statistics-
October - December 1999 (In thousands)
Cash Basis (Unaudited)**

Item	December 1999	November 1999	October 1999	October 1999 - December 1999	October 1998 - December 1998
RAILROAD RETIREMENT ACCOUNT					
Balance at beginning of period¹	\$15,767,266	\$15,782,339	\$15,768,922	\$15,768,922	\$15,451,175
Income, total	252,077	330,973	357,573	940,623	1,188,874
Payroll taxes ²	158,882	185,558	181,148	525,588	535,472
Income tax transfers ³	.....	.....	89,000	89,000	49,000
Reimbursements for payment of SSA benefits	91,610	92,706	92,224	276,541	278,793
Undistributed recoveries of benefit payments ⁴	135	18	131	284	-16
Uncashed check credits from U.S. Treasury ⁵	46	37	37	121	134
Financial interchange adjustment	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Interest on investments ⁶	1,404	52,653	-4,968	49,089	325,491
Outgo, total	340,061	346,046	344,155	1,030,262	1,013,023
Benefit payments	243,694	249,413	246,055	739,162	721,544
Payments of SSA benefits	91,625	92,717	92,228	276,571	278,476
Administrative expenses ⁷	4,592	3,746	5,726	14,065	12,514
Funding for Office of Inspector General	149	170	146	465	490
Balance at end of period¹	15,679,283	15,767,266	15,782,339	15,679,283	15,627,026
RAILROAD RETIREMENT SUPPLEMENTAL ACCOUNT					
Balance at beginning of period	\$57,586	\$56,510	\$56,768	\$56,768	\$41,004
Income, total	7,345	7,496	6,084	20,926	35,887
Taxes ²	7,077	7,230	5,842	20,149	35,462
Interest on investments ⁶	268	266	242	777	425
Outgo, total	6,382	6,421	6,341	19,144	19,628
Benefit payments	6,104	6,261	6,102	18,467	19,086
Administrative expenses ⁷	271	152	232	656	521
Funding for Office of Inspector General	6	8	7	21	21
Balance at end of period	58,549	57,586	56,510	58,549	57,263

**Table 2: Retirement and Survivor Programs, Financial Statistics -
October - December 1999 (In thousands)
Cash Basis (Unaudited) -- Continued**

Item	December 1999	November 1999	October 1999	October 1999 - December 1999	October 1998 - December 1998
SOCIAL SECURITY EQUIVALENT BENEFIT ACCOUNT					
Balance at beginning of period	\$1,964,227	\$1,973,715	\$1,934,687	\$1,934,687	\$1,965,234
Income, total	435,677	410,944	461,102	1,307,723	1,380,175
Payroll taxes ²	167,549	183,856	159,826	511,231	557,570
Income tax transfers ³	.....	.....	40,000	40,000	32,000
Financial interchange advances ⁸	259,206	218,099	252,566	729,872	769,882
RRB-SSA financial interchange transfer	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Interest on investments ⁶	8,922	8,988	8,709	26,620	20,723
Outgo, total	420,286	420,432	422,074	1,262,792	1,276,055
Benefit payments	418,192	418,496	419,187	1,255,875	1,269,586
Repayment of financial interchange advances ⁸	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
RRB-HCFA financial interchange transfer	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Financial interchange adjustment	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Administrative expenses ⁷	2,016	1,841	2,805	6,662	6,212
Funding for Office of Inspector General	78	95	81	255	258
Balance at end of period	1,979,618	1,964,227	1,973,715	1,979,618	2,069,354
DUAL BENEFITS PAYMENTS ACCOUNT⁹					
Balance at beginning of period	-\$29,512	-\$14,745	.....	.....	.....
Congressional apportionments ¹⁰	46,445	0	-\$3,000	\$43,446	\$46,941
Income tax transfers ³	.....	.....	3,000	3,000	3,000
Vested dual benefit payments	14,801	14,767	14,746	44,313	47,796
Balance at end of period	2,133	-29,512	-14,745	2,133	2,145

¹Balances include liabilities for uncashed checks. As of the end of December 1999, liabilities were \$6,616,000. ²Net of U.S. Treasury adjustments for payroll tax refunds to certain carriers and their employees for prior periods. ³October 1999 amounts include U.S. Treasury adjustment for calendar year 1996 income tax reconciliation: +\$34 million for RR Account, +\$18 million for SSEB Account and +\$1 million for DBP Account. ⁴Net of amounts distributed by account. ⁵Net of returns of uncashed check credits. Includes undistributed canceled checks under 1-year limited payability. ⁶Net of adjustments for payroll tax refunds (see note 2). RR Account: Amounts reflect changes in market value of zero coupon bonds. ⁷Reflects adjustments for prior periods. ⁸Includes interest. ⁹Total vested dual benefits paid during a fiscal year are limited to the amount appropriated to the Dual Benefits Payments Account for that year. Any amounts not spent are returned to the U.S. Treasury. The benefit appropriation for fiscal year 2000 was \$173.3 million, including income tax transfers. The appropriation for fiscal year 1999 was \$189 million. ¹⁰Includes a small amount of interest on uncashed checks. Funds for October and November 1999 were provided under a continuing resolution.

NOTE.--Data relate to CALENDAR month.

Detail may not add to totals shown because of rounding.

Table 3: Unemployment and Sickness Programs, Benefit Statistics
October - December 1999

Period	Normal benefit accounts			Beneficiaries		
	Applications received	Opened	Exhausted	Total	Normal benefits	Extended benefits
			Unemployment			
December 1999	1,500	947	73	3,674	3,638	71
November 1999	1,133	596	48	2,717	2,695	47
October 1999	766	606	47	2,560	2,519	92
7/99 - 12/99	7,478	5,145	306	6,408	6,313	401
7/98 - 12/98	8,865	6,257	237	7,341	7,212	446
			Sickness			
December 1999	1,443	1,252	88	7,065	7,019	83
November 1999	1,752	1,489	62	7,080	7,052	63
October 1999	1,823	1,491	34	6,985	6,921	117
7/99 - 12/99	16,437	12,987	440	14,137	13,898	927
7/98 - 12/98	16,327	12,509	428	13,221	12,985	999
	Number of payments			Averages ¹		
	Total	Normal benefits	Extended benefits	Benefit days	Benefit per week	Benefit payments (thousands)
			Unemployment			
December 1999	5,498	5,352	146	8.7	\$225.90	\$2,582
November 1999	4,641	4,561	80	8.9	225.50	2,052
October 1999	4,455	4,288	167	8.8	223.25	1,862
7/99 - 12/99	26,865	25,186	1,679	8.8	225.80	12,141
7/98 - 12/98	29,788	27,890	1,898	8.8	218.75	12,604
			Sickness			
December 1999	12,693	12,510	183	9.1	\$227.25	\$3,380
November 1999	13,092	12,969	123	9.2	226.10	3,946
October 1999	12,673	12,455	218	9.1	227.75	3,904
7/99 - 12/99	74,712	71,009	3,703	9.0	226.30	21,410
7/98 - 12/98	73,382	69,227	4,155	9.1	219.30	18,106

¹Benefit days--average benefit days per registration period. Benefit per week--equal to 5 times average daily benefit.

NOTE.--An unemployment claimant files only one APPLICATION for a benefit year. A sickness claimant files an APPLICATION at the beginning of each period of continuing sickness.

NORMAL BENEFIT ACCOUNTS are opened when the first payment is made.

The number of BENEFICIARIES is the count of persons receiving unemployment or sickness benefits in the period. Those receiving both normal and extended benefits for unemployment or sickness are counted only once in the total for each type.

PAYMENTS generally cover 14-day registration periods. For registration periods beginning prior to October 9, 1996, no benefits were payable for first claims for unemployment or sickness in a benefit year, which generally resulted in a 14-day waiting period. Effective with registration periods beginning October 9, 1996, and later, benefits are payable for days over 7 during an employee's first 14-day registration period.

Sickness benefits are paid for days of sickness after the 4th consecutive day of sickness in the first claim in each period of continuing sickness; for subsequent registration periods in the same period of continuing sickness, payments are made for all days of sickness over 4 whether or not consecutive. Unemployment benefits are paid for days of unemployment over 4. However, in the case of unemployment benefits due to a legal authorized strike, unemployment benefits are not paid until after a 14-day waiting period. Non-strikers unemployed due to an illegal strike must also serve a 14-day waiting period.

(Continued on next page.)

**Table 4: Unemployment and Sickness Programs, Financial Statistics-
October - December 1999 (In thousands)
Cash Basis (Unaudited)**

Item	December 1999	November 1999	October 1999	October 1999 - December 1999	October 1998 - December 1998
RAILROAD UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACCOUNT					
Balance at beginning of period	\$109,839	\$109,198	\$100,715	\$100,715	\$66,611
Income, total	1,094	6,751	14,362	22,207	27,698
Contributions	29	7,165	14,432	21,627	22,468
Interest on investments	59	27	33	119	136
Undistributed recoveries of benefit payments ¹	1,006	-441	-103	461	-194
Transfers from Administration Fund	.....	.....	.....	.....	5,288
Outgo, total	6,028	6,110	5,880	18,018	18,148
Unemployment benefit payments	2,582	2,052	1,862	6,496	8,373
Sickness benefit payments	3,380	3,946	3,904	11,230	9,505
Funding for Office of Inspector General	66	112	113	292	270
Balance at end of period	104,905	109,839	109,198	104,905	76,162
RAILROAD UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ADMINISTRATION FUND					
Balance at beginning of period	\$10,886	\$10,468	\$9,081	\$9,081	\$7,849
Income, total	5	1,479	2,991	4,475	4,905
Contributions	5	1,479	2,991	4,475	4,905
Interest on investments	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Outgo, total	766	1,061	1,604	3,430	7,956
Administrative expenses	766	1,061	1,604	3,430	2,669
Transfers to RUI Account	.....	.....	.....	.....	5,288
Balance at end of period	10,126	10,886	10,468	10,126	4,798

¹Net of distributed amounts.

NOTE.--(Continued from previous page.)

BENEFIT PAYMENTS are on a cash basis (unaudited) and represent amounts paid during the period including retroactive payments, less recoveries distributed to beneficiary accounts, refunds, and cancellations of previous payments.

ADMINISTRATION FUND balances reflect current adjustments to income and disbursements for previous years.

All unemployment and sickness data relate to CALENDAR MONTHS.

LEGISLATION enacted on October 9, 1996, increased the maximum daily benefit rate, revised the formula for indexing future benefit rates, and reduced the initial benefit waiting period. The amendments also apply an earnings test to some unemployment claims and reduce the maximum number of weeks in extended benefit periods for long-service employees.

Detail may not add to totals shown because of rounding.

Table 5: Benefits and Beneficiaries -- December 1999

RETIREMENT - SURVIVOR

Total benefit payments - cash basis (unaudited)	\$682,791,000
Regular benefits	661,886,000
Vested dual benefits	14,801,000
Supplemental annuities	6,104,000

	Number	Average
Total benefits being paid at end of month	842,000	.....
Retired employees':		
Regular	315,000	\$1,356
Supplemental	143,000	43
Spouses' and divorced spouses'	166,000	525
Aged widows' and widowers'	181,000	812
Other survivors'	36,000	648
Total beneficiaries being paid at end of month	691,000	.....

UNEMPLOYMENT-SICKNESS

	Unemployment	Sickness
Benefit payments - cash basis (unaudited)	\$2,582,000	\$3,380,000
Beneficiaries	3,700	7,100
Average payment per week	\$226	\$227
